

The Kansas Chief.

SOL. MILLER, - - - - - EDITOR.

WHITE CLOUD, KANSAS:
Thursday, : : : May 23, 1863.

MAILS.—As an evidence of our delightful mail arrangements, we will remark, that one day last week we received a letter from Troy, in this County, and one from Nashville, Tennessee, both bearing post-marks of the same date. We are thinking of having all our mail matter from this County come by way of Nashville. A letter from St. Joseph, was brought to us some days afterwards, by private conveyance, from Padonia. These misarrangements are chargeable to some postmaster between here and Troy. As there are only two post offices on the route between the two towns, the fault must be at Highland, where the Padonia mail branches off. These matters have caused us much bother and perplexity, and the loss of many dollars, from dissatisfied subscribers, or those who would have subscribed, had there been any reliable mail facilities. We had a call, this week, from Mr. Ingersoll, the new Mail Agent, who is looking up the mail troubles and leaks. He will be along again shortly, when he will consider measures to remedy the evils from which we suffer.

SUMMARY JUSTICE.—Four men were last week hung near Atchison, for entering a man's house in that County, knocking down him and his wife, and robbing them of a small sum of money. There were seven or eight in the gang, and they expected to find a large amount of money, but failed. They were caught, taken to Atchison, and two of them hung in the early part of the week, and two others on Saturday. It seems like a hard state of affairs, when crime must be punished in this manner; but it is the only way in which the people can protect themselves from the outlawry now so prevalent in Kansas. The only fault of the Atchison people is, that they did not hang the whole gang of villains.

VICKSBURG.—Our latest dispatches from Vicksburg, before going to press, are to Saturday morning. On Friday, Pemberton sent a flag of truce to Grant, offering to capitulate, if his forces were allowed to march away after stacking their arms. Grant refused the terms, and ordered an assault, which resulted in driving the rebels into their last line of entrenchments. The fight was desperate. The rebels are now in their last ditch, and with no back on our side Vicksburg cannot hold out much longer.

The West Wind passed up, on Wednesday evening, crowded with Minnesota Indians, on their way to Fort Randall. They were having a good time generally, and kept up their dancing and yelling as long as the boat was within hearing distance. A crowd of Iowa who stood on the levee, could not contain themselves, but got up a fandango of their own. One of them expressed his admiration of the performance on the boat, in the following elegant language: "Horrah for you, God damn!"

Some of our readers don't like the letters of "Orpheus O. Kerr." A good many do. We like them. He rather overstates some points, but every letter will be found to contain laughable bits at military blunders, sensation reports, upstart or bombastic officers, and other ridiculous matters connected with the war.

Capt. L. H. Utt, who was wounded at the battle of Tusculum, and had his leg amputated, was left at that place, in care of O. O. Whitney, of his company. They were taken prisoners by the rebels, who returned after our forces left. They were subsequently released on parole, and are now on their way home, to await recovery and exchange.

Arthur's Home Magazine, for June, is on our table. The illustrations are, "Just Like Mama," and "Baby's Ride." It contains eleven prose and poetical articles, besides the regular Departments. This is truly an excellent Magazine. Published at Philadelphia, at \$2 a year.

Gen. A. L. Lee, of this State, took command of the brigade of Gen. Osterhaus, who was wounded, and fought it through the battle of Black River Bridge. Subsequently, Gen. Lee was severely, if not dangerously, wounded in the attack on Vicksburg.

Union Masses in Holt.—A Union Mass Meeting will be held at Oregon, Mo., on Saturday, June 6th. Good speakers from St. Joseph are expected to be present, to address the meeting. All Union men are desired to attend.

A eulogist of Stonewall Jackson, about a year ago, speaking of the love which his soldiers bore him, said they "would follow him into hell, if he led the way." He has led the way—now let them follow.

The June rise of the Missouri River has evidently commenced. It is rising at this place, and we learn that there is a heavy rise coming above. It is badly needed, as the river is now in miserable low stage.

John L. Graham, of Nemaha County, who is pleased to learn, has been promoted from 2d to 1st Lieutenant of Company D, 8th Kansas Regiment.

A Famous Institution To Let.

We wish some genuine orthodox, who has made the subject his study, and professes to understand it, would inform us what is the use of a Hell? We have never been a church member, and have not investigated such matters very deeply; but we had always been a firm believer in a Hell—a literal place of burning and howling, as described in Holy Writ. We took a secret pleasure in the thought that there was such a place, for the benefit of villains whose cases could not be sufficiently reached by all the punishment and torture that could be inflicted in this world. In our younger days, we imagined the place was reserved exclusively for Democrats, especially those who did not vote for Henry Clay for President. Then, as we grew older, and listened to the arguments of "Universalists," and other anti-bellians, we began to think it might not be so bad, after all. In fact, we didn't know what to believe about it, and regretted that there was any room for doubt; for it was like waking out of a pleasant dream. But every calamity brings some useful lesson; and when this rebellion broke out, amid our sorrow for the ruin and desolation which it would produce, we had one ray of pleasure. It firmly re-established our belief in a regular, good, old-fashioned, Hard-Shell Baptist Hell, where the inmates get up and yelp, and the devil, with horns on his head, a spear on the end of his tail, and cloven feet, piles the hot brimstones around them with a big hook—such a place as John Calvin endeavored to convince Michael Servetus of the existence of, by giving him a slight touch of its quality. Having confessed our faith, and given our idea of the character and use of the institution, we would now be pleased if Henry Ward Beecher, or some other fire and brimstone champion, would tell us what a Hell is for. The present rebellion is the greatest and most unpardonable crime that has been committed since the rebellion in Heaven; yet, when prime movers and master-spirits in this crime meet their just fate—meet it in the very act of murdering the nation and its defenders—their virtues and Christianity are extolled by such men as Beecher, and they are straightway given a pass to Heaven. There never were barbarians or cannibals so brutal and devilish as the Southern rebels, yet Northern men are constantly endeavoring to smuggle them into Paradise. Stonewall Jackson, Zollicoffer, and even Ben. McCulloch, have been sent up there, and Gen. Lee has all his papers made out in regular style, ready to start upon short notice. Then, what is Hell for? If Southern and Northern traitors do not go there, nobody else will; and there is a famous institution, with fires in every room, to let cheap. For particulars, inquire at the premises.

The Atlantic Monthly, for June, contains the following articles: Weak Lung, and how to make them Strong; Violet Planting; Paul Blacker; The Hancock House and its Founder; Why Thomas was Discharged; Light and Dark; Wet-Weather Work; The Member from Foxden; Mountains and their Origin; Camilla's Concert; Spring at the Capital; Horrors of San Domingo; Reviews and Literary Notices. The twelfth volume of the Atlantic commences in July. Published by Ticknor & Fields, Boston, at \$3 a year, postage pre-paid by the publishers. We furnish it for \$2.50 a year.

The communication from Sadalia, having been accompanied by no responsible name, has been thrown aside, without even being read, and we do not know its contents. How often must we repeat, that unless writers can let us know their proper names, they might as well save their time, trouble, paper, ink, and postage? We hope they will some day find out that we mean what we say.

A. R. Banks, Esq., twice Clerk of the House, and once Secretary of the State Senate of Kansas, has been appointed Provost Marshal General of Kansas, under the Conscription act. We are glad of it. Banks is a good fellow—and then he has brains.—*Emporia News.*

Yes, and then he ain't a pimp.

The war making many persons rich. It is far more honorable to remain poor, as persons who have become wealthy from the misfortunes of the country, will afterwards be looked upon with suspicion. We are glad we were rich before the war commenced.

The Union men of Oregon say they desire the jubilee over the capture of Richmond, several weeks ago, to be considered as having been over the capture of Vicksburg—provided that don't prove a failure also.

A traitor named Jeff. Miller was recently killed near Fillmore, Andrew County, Missouri. We are glad of it. If there are any other traitors named Miller, we say let them go under.

Horse stealing is at present being carried on extensively in Holt County. Scarcely a night passes, but a number are stolen. Thus far, the heaviest hauls have been made from Union men.

Thanks to Hon. A. G. Wilder, for a copy of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War—a very valuable document.

Why is Pride like Summer? Because it goes before a Fall.

LEAVENWORTH BULLETIN.—The Bulletin

thinks we did it injustice, in our little notice of its enlargement. We have had some sparring with the Bulletin, but we have had no intention of doing it injustice. It has displayed energy and "get-up," and is published by hard-working printers, and we certainly wish it success. We understand the half-sheet business perfectly well. Any printer is liable to be reduced to it at times—sometimes on account of the non-arrival of stock, but most frequently in consequence of an extra home demand, arising from matters of extraordinary local or general interest, after the outside pages have been printed. At such times, half-sheets, containing the inside matter of the paper, are printed for exchanges. But we thought that, for some months past, we had been receiving more than our share of these from the Bulletin, and dropped a sly hint—that's all of it.

If the Times made bad use of the item, we can't help it. All the Leavenworth Dailies are given to such things. Our articles are frequently made use of in that way. The Times, a short time since, copied, without explanation, a jocular remark of ours relative to the Conservative's fabrications. We are used to such things, and don't mind them much.

A paper has made its appearance, in St. Joseph, printed in the old Gazette office, called the Evening News, edited by A. K. Miller, formerly of the Journal. We trust that some good thing can come out of Nazareth, and that the Gazette types, which were never known to express loyal sentiments, or to support anything good or decent, may, in their old age, circulate true Union doctrine. The editor says that's what's the matter with him. We hope so, my boy, we hope so, (as Orpheus would say,) but we are afraid he goes too much on Conservatism. That's the way Bruce's disease commenced. Price of the Evening News, 86 a year.

Petitions are in circulation in the East, praying that the Constitution may be so amended as to distinctly recognize the existence of a God. Of all fanatics, the queerest are religious fanatics. The idea that God is offended at the United States, because he is not puffed in the Constitution, is too ridiculous to be indulged even by fanatics.

We have a plan by which Vallandigham may get back to the North. Let him denounce the Government of the Southern Confederacy with the one thousandth part of the bitterness he has at the United States, and the authorities would hustle him back North in double-quick—or else hang him, which would be all the better.

The Topeka Record boasts that it has been awarded the letter list for the ensuing year. The list in the last Record amounted to \$5 cents. At this rate, provided the list is published once a month, the list would pay \$4.20 a year; or, once in six weeks, \$2.50. Big thing!

TRY IT, BY ALL MEANS.—If any of our readers have been troubled by lack of light and uniform biscuit, it is more than probable they do not use DeLand & Co.'s Chemical Saleratus. That is a pure article, not detrimental to health, and sure in its effects. Try it, by all means.

We have heard another item connected with the late remarkable hail storm. The day following the storm, a family in this place had ice-cream, in the making of which hail-stones that fell the previous day only were used.

Our Government is treating the hungry rebels after the manner spoken of in Scripture. They asked for bread, and we gave them a Stone (man); they asked for fish, and we gave them a serpent, (the Anconda.)

When you sell a man goods on credit, put them down to the very lowest figures. It will be the better enable him to pay it; and if he fails to pay, you will not lose so much.

The President has amended Vallandigham's sentence, and ordered him sent South. Wonder if he can give the required security not to become a public charge?

We received a copy of the St. Joseph Daily Herald, last week. Why can't they keep on doing that way?

Want of water is very injurious to your stock—especially your pump-stock.

Vallandigham and his Friends Pleased with the Change of his Sentence.

By a special dispatch from Washington, I learn that the President has changed the sentence of the Military Commission in the case of C. L. Vallandigham, from confinement in Fort Warren to transportation South. He was yesterday sent to Gen. Rosecrans, with orders to be sent to Bragg. Mr. Vallandigham was well pleased with the change, and departed in good spirits. The justice of his sentence will be read with delight. His friends here are well pleased with the change.

Sentence of Vallandigham. CINCINNATI, May 22. The President has changed the sentence of Vallandigham from confinement in Fort Warren to transportation through our lines. He leaves for Louisville on the greatest Exchange, and will be handed over to Rosecrans, who, under a flag of truce, will deliver him into the lines of Gen. Bragg.

(For the Chief.)

HELINA, ARIZONA, May 14, 1863. To E. VAN BUSKIRK, OGDEN, MO.: We, members of the 33d and 35th Regiments Missouri Volunteer Infantry, from your County, having left our homes, friends, and the various comforts and enjoyments of civilized life, and joined the Federal army for one common cause—the totally crushing out of this unholy rebellion—believing that Slavery has been made the pretext, if it has not been the exact cause; and further believing that the war in Missouri can never end till Slavery is finally abolished in the State; and having nearly all of us voted for you as a Delegate to the State Convention; we therefore ask of you, as our Delegate in the Convention, to use your utmost influence and to give your vote in the Convention to so alter the Constitution of the State as to abolish Slavery immediately, without any compensation to the owners in any shape or form. We sincerely believe the day has passed when gradual emancipation will either satisfy the people or restore the State to its former happy position. Therefore, immediate and unconditional emancipation is the only thing we want. If you cannot listen to our request, we have no further need of your services as our Delegate, and would ask you to resign your seat immediately. Yours, most respectfully,

WM. M. BLAKE, 1st Lt. Co. F, 33d Mo. Vol. E. L. Allen, John Ingham, T. S. Lease, Wm S Dunahoo, George Adolph, Francis Smithland, Robert M Starnitz, B Brinegar, Wm H Halsey, W T Smith, Robert Wallace, George M Keeney, James A Guthrie, Wm Armstrong, Bayless G Pitcher, Joseph Carter, Theodore Gibson, Lafayette Thompson, Mortimer Noland, Peter Worley, Wm Lease, James Worley, Robert Patterson, S Davis, Jacob Sheifer, Noah Sipes, Jacob Cook, John Key, Jesse W Smith, John Wilson, N B Swain, Daniel Hahn, James Kelley, J S McIntyre, Christian Meyers

GRANT'S PROGRESS.

From Port Gibson to Vicksburg.

A Victory Every Day.

WASHINGTON, May 23. The following has just been received: MEMPHIS, May 23.—I forward the following, just received from Col. John A. Rawlings, A. G.:

REAR OF VICKSBURG, May 20. The army of Pemberton landed at Brimstone, April 30th. On May 1st, he fought the battle of Fort Gibson and defeated the rebels under Bowen, whose loss in killed, wounded and prisoners was at least 1,500. Loss in artillery, five pieces. On the 12th, at the battle of Raymond, the rebels were defeated with a loss of 900. On the 14th defeated General Johnson and captured Jackson, with a loss to the enemy of 400. Besides immense stores and manufactures and seventeen pieces of artillery. On the 16th fought a bloody and decisive battle at Baker Creek, at which the entire force of Vicksburg, under Pemberton, was defeated, with a loss of twenty-nine pieces of artillery and 4,000 men. On the 17th we defeated the same force at Big Black river bridge, with a loss of 2,600, and seventeen pieces of artillery. On the 18th invested Vicksburg closely. Today, 20th, Gen. Steele captured the redoubts on the north of the city. The right of the army rests on the Mississippi above Vicksburg.

(Signed) JOHN A. RAWLINGS. I learn further that there are from 15,000 to 20,000 men in Vicksburg, that Pemberton lost nearly all his field artillery, and that commanding caused about 3 p. m., on the 20th, Grant probably captured nearly all.

(Signed) S. A. HOLMUT, Major General. Official information from Grant's army up to Wednesday, says Gen. Grant captured Haines' Bluff and the outer works of Vicksburg, a large number of prisoners and fifty-seven pieces of artillery. The battle was still raging, with every prospect of capturing the entire force in Vicksburg. We hold Jackson, Black river Bridge and Haines' Bluff.

BOMBARDMENT OF FORT HUDSON BY THE GUNBOATS. The Enemy's Guns Silenced—None of Our Vessels Injured.

Organization of Negro Troops in Banks' Department.

NEW YORK, May 23. The Steamer Massena from New Orleans, 16th, has arrived. Among her passengers is Col. John S. Clark, of Gen Banks' staff.

At midnight of the 8th inst., our mortar fleet, assisted by the iron-clad Essex and the sloop of war Richmond, commenced the bombardment of the lower batteries at Port Hudson. It was kept up an hour, the enemy not responding. On the 9th trials were made to secure accurate range, and at ten at night another bombardment took place, and continued an hour without response. At 3 A. M. of the 10th the batteries were again bombarded and continued until 4:30, when the enemy replied, and the firing became rapid on both sides. The Essex was struck. A full broadside silenced the enemy's guns. None of our vessels were injured.

The Era's correspondence, from which the above is taken, intimates good news will fill his next letter. All the colored regiments in Gen. Banks' Department, except the Engineer corps, have been turned over by him to Gen. Hillman, who has the entire control of their equipment and organization. In addition to the present four regiments there are already 2,500 recruits in camp. Gen. Ullman would immediately proceed to organize a corps of arms of infantry, artillery and cavalry under white officers. All places of public resort in New Orleans, except churches, have been ordered to display the national flag, and all places of amusement to commence and close their performances by national airs.

Admiral Farragut was surrounded by the Unionists of New Orleans on the night of the 25th.

LATEST FROM VICKSBURG.

THE STRONGHOLD TAKEN. HAINES' BLUFF CAPTURED.

All the Outer Works Taken—4,000 Prisoners and 100 Great Captured—1,000 Animals, all their Small Arms and Explosives Bagged—The Whole Rebel Army Doomed—The Confederacy Cut in Two—The Rebellion Strangled—Free Navigation of the Mississippi.

CAIRO, May 24. By arrival of the Belle Memphis this evening, we have files of the Memphis Bulletin, to the afternoon of yesterday. The following includes all that is known at this time of the progress of the operations in regard to the important movements at Vicksburg.

The steamer Empress arrived from Young's Point at Memphis, bringing news to the 20th. McPherson's corps, after a most desperate fight on the part of the rebels and heavy loss to the Federal, was successful in whipping the rebel Gen. Gregg, and on Friday, the 16th, marched triumphantly into Jackson. Up to the latest date Gen. McPherson was in quiet and undisputed possession.

The latest news from Jackson is up to the 19th. The rebels after their defeat, fell back towards Canton, Mississippi. As soon as it was known that Jackson was taken, a movement was made on Haines' and Chickasaw bluffs, the Federal being in command of Gen. Sherman.

The rebels were thoroughly intrenched and determined to dispute the occupation of the bluff to the last. No time since the commencement of the war has afforded them a better opportunity to die in the last ditch.

Gen. Sherman made the attack in a brilliant manner, and after a severe fight with a heavy Federal loss, he occupied the field, capturing 8,000 prisoners, and 100 heavy guns, 1,000 animals, all their camps, ammunition, and a large quantity of commissary stores.

The loss to the rebels in killed and wounded is considerable.

On Sunday Gen. Grant directed an attack to be made on the upper batteries at Vicksburg, and simultaneously the gunboats commenced bombarding the water batteries at that place.

It is stated by agents who stood on the Desoto, at a point immediately opposite Vicksburg, that on Tuesday Gen. Grant took the rebel guns on the hill and turned them on the rebels, who were at the water batteries.

Fifty paroled prisoners came over to the Point with a flag of truce that day, sent from Vicksburg. They state that Gen. Grant had possession of the entire line of fortifications surrounding Vicksburg, and rebel officers told them it was impossible, since the capture of Haines' Bluff, for them to escape.

The wildest confusion existed in town. Even the soldiers were hurrying from point to point, their officers being unable to keep them in line of battle.

Speeches were made by the officers, assuring the soldiers that they would receive large reinforcements, and that Gen. Grant would be attacked in the rear, but they refused to hear anything, and swore they had been sold by their commanding General.

The rebel force in Vicksburg is estimated at thirty thousand.

It is stated that Gen. Johnston had started to Vicksburg with 19,000 men, but had been cut off and driven back. When the Empress arrived at Milliken's Bend on Wednesday, the firing at Vicksburg and up the Yazoo had entirely ceased, which leaves no doubt of the occupation of the entire Vicksburg fortifications, as well as all the surrounding points by Gen. Grant.

On Tuesday a large number of transports and a few gunboats were sent up the Yazoo, for the purpose, it is supposed, of bringing down our wounded and prisoners.

Gen. Frank P. Blair, Jr., sent down to Young's Point for quartermaster stores, stating that his division rested on Chickasaw Bluff.

We are informed that the 12th Missouri came out of the engagement with only 84 fighting men.

LATER.

The steamer Hannibal has just come in, having left Young's Point late on Wednesday evening.

She brings no later news than the above. Gen. Grant had signaled the upper batteries, but could get no reply. All the transports and swift steamers were sent up the Yazoo with stores for the army, among others the Luminary and Scotland.

Additional Particulars.

WASHINGTON, May 24.—Extracts of the Washington papers contain the following, issued at 11 A. M. to-day:

We have just received the following telegraphic announcement: CLEVELAND, O. May 24, 1863.—A dispatch from Fuller, telegraph manager at Memphis, received late in the night, says: The stars and stripes float over Vicksburg and the victory is complete. I have held this message hoping to get confirmation; but the line has been interrupted, and I now give it to you as it reached me. I think the wires will be right soon.

From the Richmond Enquirer, of the 23 inst., we have the following:

MOBILE, May 21. "The special reporter of the Advertiser and Register, at Jackson, sends the latest news from Vicksburg down to Tuesday night. In Saturday's fight we lost thirty pieces of artillery, which were spiked and abandoned. On Sunday the Federal advanced to take Big Black bridge, but were repulsed, when they crossed higher up and attacked it in the rear, when the bridge was burned and the works abandoned. Loss heavy.

Vicksburg is closely besieged, the one way closing in on all sides.

Gen. Loring has assumed command at Jackson.

No official confirmation has been received here of the crowing of the Big Black by the Federal, or of the destruction of the bridge or abandonment of works.

Private dispatches from Jackson up to the 22d say nothing of these events.

To this we have added that our Navy Department has information that Admiral Porter has been co-operating with General Grant in the siege of Vicksburg, and the fleet is bombarding the city and its works by night, while Grant's army assaults by day—thus giving the rebels within the town and entrenchments not a moment's relaxation from the perils of their situation. The Navy Department also this forenoon received official information that Admiral Farragut's fleet is actively engaged in bombarding Port Hudson.

The following was received here late on Saturday night:

MEMPHIS, May 23—11:30 A. M.—To Hon. E. M. Stanton: The following dispatch has been received at headquarters, and is forwarded as requested.

S. A. HOLMUT, Maj. Gen. REAR OF VICKSBURG, } May 20—6 A. M.

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War: Gen. Grant won a great and momentous victory over the rebels under Pemberton, on the Jackson railroad, at Baker's Creek, on the 16th inst. Pemberton had a most formidable position on the crest of a wooded hill, over which a road passed longitudinally. He had about twenty-five thousand men. The battle began at 11 A. M. and was won at 4 P. M. Its brunt was borne by Hovey's division of McClernand's corps, and by Logan's and Crocker's of McPherson's.

Hovey attacked the hill and held the greater part of it till two o'clock P. M., when having lost 1,600 men, he was succeeded by Boomer's and Holmes' brigades of Crocker's division, by which the conflict was ended in that part of the field. Boomer lost 500 men. Logan operated on the right and cut the enemy's direct line of retreat, so that he was compelled to escape by his right flank through the woods.

FROM VICKSBURG.

CAPTURE OF HAINES' BLUFF.

Gallant Participation of the River Fleet—Official Dispatch from Admiral Porter.

CHICAGO, May 25.

A Cairo special says dates from below to morning of 22d, represented bombardment of the enemy's upper works was continued by the mortar fleet. Persons who saw the operations through glasses say they are satisfied Grant has captured the battery on Walnut Hill. A furious cannonading was going on all around the city.

WASHINGTON, May 25. The following was received this morning:

CAIRO, May 25. "Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy: The following dispatch has just been received, signed Pennock, Fleet Captain Mississippi Squadron:

"FLAG SHIP BLACK HAWK, HAINES' BLUFF, YAZOO RIVER, May 20.—To Hon. Gideon Welles: On the morning of the 5th I came over to the Yazoo to be ready to co-operate with Gen. Grant, leaving two of the iron-clads at Red river, one at Grand Gulf, one at Carthage, three at Warrenton, and two in the Yazoo. This left me a slim force, still I disposed of it to the best advantage. On the 18th, at noon, firing was heard in the rear of Vicksburg, which assured me Gen. Grant was approaching the city.

The cannonading was kept up furiously for some time when, by the aid of glasses, I discovered a company of our artillery taking position and driving the rebels before them. I immediately saw that Gen. Sherman's division had come on to the left of Snyder's Bluff, and that the rebels at that place had been cut off from joining the forces in the city. I dispatched the DeKalb, Lieut. Commander Walker, the Chontee, Lieut. Commander Ramsey, the Rome, Petrel and Forest Rose, all under command of Lieut. Commander Breese, up the Yazoo to open communication in that way with Gen. Grant and Sherman.

This I succeeded in doing, and in three hours received letters from Gen. Grant and Sherman and Steele, informing me of the vast success of our army, and asking me to send up provisions, which was at once done.

In the mean time Lieut. Commander Walker in the DeKalb, pushed on to Haines' Bluff, which the enemy had commenced evacuating the day before, and a party remained behind in the hope of destroying or taking away a large amount of the ammunition on hand.

When they saw the gunboats they came out and left everything in good order. Their guns fell into our hands. As soon as the capture of Haines' Bluff and fourteen guns was reported to me, I moved up the gunboats from below Vicksburg to fire at the hill batteries, which fire was kept up for two or three hours. At midnight they moved up to the town and opened on it for about an hour, and continued at intervals during the night to annoy the garrison.

On the 19th I placed six mortars in position, with orders to fire night and day as rapidly as they could.

The works at Haines' Bluff are very formidable. There are fourteen of the heaviest kind of mounted steel and ten inch and seven and a half inch rifled cannon, with ammunition enough to last a long siege. As the gun carriages might again fall into the hands of the enemy, I had them burned, blew up the magazines, and destroyed the works generally.

I also burnt up the encampments, which were permanently and remarkably well constructed, looking as if the rebels intended to stay for some time. The works and encampments covered many acres of ground, and the fortifications and rifle pits proper of Haines' Bluff extended about a mile and a quarter. Such a network of defenses I never saw. The rebels were a year in constructing them, and all were rendered useless in an hour.

As soon as I got through with the destruction of the magazines and other works, I started Lieut. Commander Walker up the Yazoo river with a sufficient force to destroy all the enemy's property in that direction, with orders to return with all dispatch, and only proceed as far as Yazoo City, where the rebels have a navy yard and storehouses.

In the meantime General Grant has closely invested Vicksburg and has possession of the best commanding points.

Private dispatches from Jackson up to the 22d say nothing of these events.

In a very short time a general assault will take place, when I hope to encounter the most brilliant success that ever attended an army. There has never been a case during the war where the rebels have been so successfully beaten at all points, and the patience and endurance shown by our army and navy for so many months is about being rewarded. It is a mere question of a few hours, and then, with the exception of Fort Hudson, which will follow Vicksburg, the Mississippi will be open its entire length.

D. D. PORTER, Rear-Admiral Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

FROM GRANT'S ARMY.

Full Details of the Engagement Before Vicksburg—Complete Success of the Union Arms—Col. Straight's Surrender in Georgia.

CINCINNATI, May 25. Special dispatches from Grant's army contain full accounts of the battle in Mississippi, representing them as a series of bloody engagements, in which our soldiers have immortalized themselves.

The Commercial's special, dated the field of Baker's Creek, May 16, says another glorious victory. A furious battle, lasting nearly five hours, resulted in the defeat of the enemy at all points with a loss of 3,000 killed and wounded, their complete batteries of heavy rifle cannon, besides single pieces, and 2,000 prisoners, large quantities of small arms, camp equipage, &c. Our success is signal and complete. Early on the morning of the 10th, McClernand's corps was put in motion. Hovey's division advanced across the open field at the foot of Champion Hill, and at 12 o'clock commenced the battle.

The hill was covered with timber, and flanked on both sides by deep ravines and gullies, and in many cases covered with an almost impenetrable growth of scrubby bushes. The rebels opened with heavy fire from a four gun battery, and from sharpshooters in the woods. Here the battle raged furiously from 11 A. M. until 2 P. M. Hovey's division carried the heights in gallant style, making a dash on the first battery and captured it. The rebel dead lay thick in the vicinity of the guns; gun-carriages, blankets, small arms and debris attended the struggle for the ground.

At this juncture, the rebels being reinforced, Hovey was slowly driven back, but a brigade from General Quincy was ordered to his support, and the ground was speedily reconquered and the rebels finally repulsed. At the commencement of the engagement, Logan's division marched past the brow of the hill, and formed in line of battle on the right of Hovey. They advanced in gallant style, sweeping everything before them to the edge of the woods.

In front of Logan the battle was of the most desperate character imaginable. The rattle of musketry was incessant and continuous, in which the reports were so blended that a single discharge was rarely heard.

Logan captured two batteries and a large portion of the prisoners, small arms, &c.

A special dispatch to the Commercial from Columbus says members of the 3d Ohio, now here, detail the capture of Col. Straight's force near Rome, Ga. The surrender was perfectly justifiable and unavoidable, the enemy occupying an impregnable position with overpowering numbers.

BATTLE OF BLACK RIVER BRIDGE. Official Details of the Fight.

WASHINGTON, May 24. The following official details of the battle of Black River Bridge have been received:

IN REAR OF VICKSBURG, May 20. 6 A. M.—E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War: Gen. Grant won a great and momentous battle over the rebels under Pemberton, on the Jackson and Vicksburg railroad at Baker's Creek, on the 16th inst. Pemberton had a most formidable position on the crest of a wooded hill, over which the railroad passes longitudinally. He had about twenty-five thousand men. The battle began at 11 o'clock A. M. and was gained at 4 P. M. The brunt was borne by Hovey's division of McClernand's corps, and Logan's and Crocker's divisions of McPherson's corps. Hovey attacked the hill and held the greater part until 2 P. M., when having lost 1,600 men, he was succeeded by Boomer's and Holmes' brigades of Crocker's division, by which the conflict was ended in that part of the field—Boomer lost 500 men.

Logan operated on the right and cut off the enemy's direct retreat, so that he was compelled to escape by his right flank through the woods. Logan lost 400 killed and wounded. We took about 2,000 prisoners.</